



# THE LIGHTNING THIEF:

## Pre-Reading Activity

*The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan tells the story of twelve-year-old Percy Jackson, who finds out he's a demigod and then embarks on a dangerous quest to retrieve a stolen lightning bolt. Before you enter Percy's world of Greek gods, monsters, and adventures, review some key terms and reflect on what you already know.



**VOCABULARY**

Review the meaning of the following Greek mythology terms.

- **hero:** a person who accomplishes great feats or makes brave sacrifices on behalf of others; a child of a god and a mortal
- **myth:** an ancient, traditional story that explains a natural phenomenon or teaches an important lesson
- **quest:** a daring journey taken in order to complete a task

### BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Record what you know about some of Greek mythology's famous gods, goddesses, creatures, and places. Then, conduct your own research to learn more, and record the new information in the chart.

Mount Olympus	Zeus	Poseidon	Medusa
Ares	Athena	Dionysus	Minotaur
Hades	Hermes	Cerberus	Kronos